



For Immediate Release

Contact: Alex Dery Snider or Alison

Amor

September 8, 2009

202.225.6375

Chairman Gordon's Statement on Augustine Committee Summary Report on Human Spaceflight

(Washington, DC)—Today, the White House released the [executive summary](#) of the report of the Review of U.S. Human Spaceflight Plans Committee, chaired by Norman Augustine. The Augustine panel was charged with examining options for NASA's human spaceflight program and will report on their findings to the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, John Holdren. The full report is expected to be released later this month.

Committee on Science and Technology Chairman Bart Gordon (D-TN) offered the following statement:

"I look forward to reviewing the Augustine panel's report. In addition, the Science and Technology Committee is planning a hearing next Tuesday, September 15th, with Mr. Augustine and NASA Administrator Charles Bolden to examine the panel's findings and to better understand the Administration's next steps.

With the NASA authorization that was signed into law last year ([PL 110-422](#)), Congress is on record in support of a strong human and robotic exploration program at NASA as part of a robust and balanced set of NASA initiatives in human spaceflight, science, and aeronautics. I want to work with the Administration to ensure that our nation can sustain a vital exploration program. The Committee will be working on a new multi-year authorization this fall, and I hope that this report will provide constructive input to that effort. As has already been recognized by the Augustine panel, NASA has not been given resources matched to the tasks it has been asked to undertake. That has to change."

For more information, please see the Committee's [website](#).

###